

THE MAINE BOWHUNTER

MAY 2011

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



By Jerome Richard

Winter is finally over and the turkey season is upon us again. I hope the turkey hunters out there find another successful season especially if you get a chance to take one with archery equipment. I think I got spoiled from last year's long, warm spring, summer, and fall. I have lived in Maine for almost 23 years now and last year was great weather. This spring seems to be a little stubborn and I actually experienced some snow mixed with the rain on the day of the April 23rd MBA banquet!

2011 Sportsman's Shows

This year the Maine Bowhunters Association attended "5" shows throughout the state of Maine where we promoted archery with the Na-

tional Archery in the Schools Program (NASP) equipment. First, we traveled to the Cabin Fever Reliever in Brewer hosted by the Penobscot Fly Fishers on February 26th and 27th. That was a good tune-up for the 73rd Annual Eastern Maine Sportsman's Show at the University of Maine in Orono hosted by the Penobscot County Conservation Association on March 11th-13th. We then traveled to the newly relocated 7th Annual Pine State Sportsman's Show in Winslow on March 18th-20th. Then we went on a long road trip to the 13th Annual Presque Isle Fish & Game Club Sportsman's Show on March 26th and 27th at the University of Maine at Presque Isle. Our final show was the 31st Annual State of Maine Sportsman's Show in Augusta on April 1st-3rd.

During these 5 shows we recorded just shy of 2,000 people (kids and adults) that stopped by our indoor archery range to shoot the Genesis bows. We did notice that

some shows were affected by the bad economy, but that was not the case in Presque Isle and Orono where the crowds kept us really busy. I will have to say that the shows with the most people had many youth activities and new attractions. I believe next year the MBA will cut back on the number of shows and stay with the one's that know how to draw the crowds.

I wanted to personally thank Woody Higgins and Deane Smith from the PCCA and Nick Archer from the Presque Isle Fish & Game Club. They really worked hard to push youth activities at the Orono and Presque Isle sportsman's shows. Most of us who have been around for awhile have been to many shows in the past and maybe not much has changed. However, I believe it is in our best interest to find things related to the outdoors for the kids if we want to hold onto our outdoor heritage. Give the kids something to do at the

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UPCOMING EVENTS

June 4th—Brewer, Outdoor Family Fun Day, Penobscot County Conservation Association

June 4th and 5th—York Fish and Game, Bowhunter Safety Class

June 18th—Old Town Archery, Bowhunter Safety Class

June 25th—Daysstar, Bowhunter Safety Class

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show and give the parents some photo opportunities with their kids like the archery range, B-B gun range, fly tying, fishing pond, climbing wall, and other opportunities. Our kids only grow up once, so we have to keep them engaged or lose them to other things that might not be positive for them.

Gray New Gloucester High School – New NASP School!

On March 5th, the Maine Bowhunters Association and the National Archery in the Schools Program teamed up to provide \$1,000 grants each from both organizations to get the Gray New Gloucester High School started with a new total NASP outfit plus the MBA paid for the 8-hour Basic Archery Instructor class. This meant that the school only had to cover a total of \$1,000 to make this program a reality at their school. When you have the Assistant Principle included in the training, you know that the program will be successful for years to come.

The MBA does not pro-

vide these kinds of funds usually, but when we were approached by NASP to offer this deal, we accepted especially when we saw how quickly the school’s management accepted the offer without hesitation. We don’t know if future opportunities like this will be available, but I would strongly urge if other schools are interested in joining NASP that they accept some of the financial responsibility for the equipment. In the past the MBA has been approached by other schools asking for us to pay 100% of the equipment (\$3,000.00 plus the training (\$40 per teacher). I was born at night, but not last night!



Photo Above: Jerome Richard, Timothy Richards, Eric Klein, Todd Mercer, Mike Dehetre, and Tina Richard at the Gray-New Gloucester High School

I would suggest schools that might be interested in NASP, please go to the website www.nasparchery.com for information and fundraising ideas.

Hampden – Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP)

Over the past 4 years as president of the Maine Bowhunters Association, I have attended many town meetings to represent the MBA or support other groups like the NRA at these town meetings. I was invited to attend the Hampden Town Meeting on March 1st which I can now say

was the most exciting meeting I have ever attended. It was obvious from the moment I arrived, about 30 minutes before the meeting, that this was going to be full of strong emotions. I estimated 200 to 250 people were there to express their extreme displeasure with the town council on the proposed Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP). Also, there was local television coverage to record the meeting. At times it was like having front row seats at the beginning of a boxing match without anyone throwing a punch of course.

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MBA AFFILIATES

Central Maine Archery, LLC,
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AFFILIATES
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The meeting was so large it had to be moved to a much larger community room in the building. After 3 hours and well over 20 people speaking in opposition to the CLUP, I noticed not one person spoke in favor of the CLUP. Only the town council somehow thought CLUP was a good idea. Let me ask you a question, if the government were allowed to confiscate your land and not have to compensate you financially for your loss would you be upset? If the government had the right to take your freedom or rights away from you on what we would normally do with our land and they didn't have to compensate you, wouldn't you be upset? What I saw happen by the Hampden town council was nothing short of Socialism. But then I realized maybe it is something just as bad, like a few select people who control the town growth and who get development rights and who doesn't!

The town council dodged a lot of questions and I hope the citizens throw the CLUP and the town council out at the next election. When the elected officials do things behind people's back and propose to limit your use of your land and they determine if you can hunt on your land, that you can't subdivide your land to give to your children, that they can control whether you can cut wood off your land for your wood stove, or whether you can build a business in that town, then you have a serious problem!

When the town takes your rights or property without compensation then there is a huge problem.

Annual MBA Banquet

The Annual MBA Banquet was a big success! There were approximately 150 people at the event this year which was the largest crowd since I have been president of the MBA. We were honored to several people from IF&W at the banquet including Commissioner Chandler Woodcock, Major Greg Sanborn, Edie Smith the new Director of Information & Education for IF&W, and former Deputy Commissioner Paul Jacques who was our auctioneer for the evening. We also had many archery shops represented at the banquet including Old Town Archery Center, Moosehead Trail Trading Post, Central Maine Archery, Fast Flight, L.L. Bean, Precision Archery, and Audette's Ace Hardware. We even had whole tables taken by groups from the National Wild Turkey Federation and the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation.

Commissioner Chandler Woodcock was one of our guest speakers who gave his vision of the department and he personally told me that the Governor and he are both committed to keeping the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife as a stand alone department with no consolidation under his administration. He understands and accepts the challenges of the deer recovery effort that lay before him. The Commissioner was very

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pleased with the growth of the MBA and remembers how independent hunters were in his youth and how organizations have been built to protect our hunting heritage and is a key component for all Maine hunters and the department to protect our natural resources.

Our second guest speaker was Peter Brown of Extreme Dimension Game Calls. Peter gave a presentation on how his company was created back in 2000 and how it has grown from deer and moose calls, to turkeys, bears, and now predator calls. These calls have been used all over the

country with Peter, and I can personally attest to how well they work for me with deer and turkey. I have used the Mini Phantom and the Phantom Pro-Series Wireless calls with great results! It's a great way to keep the animals attention away from the bow-hunter trying to draw his bow. Some people may find this hard to believe, but I have called the last 10 out of 12 deer harvested to my treestand by calling. I have to admit some were a combination of Peter's calls and regular mouth calls. These calls are no guarantee since the

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hunter has to have some good knowledge of deer behavior. If there are no deer in the area, then no call is going to work, right? Deer and turkeys are no dummies; they can figure the calls quickly if you don't know what you are doing or if you are calling too much.

As usual our auctioneer Paul Jacques had his entertainment during the auction reminding me how short I am. After 53 years, I think I can forget about getting above 5'-4" tall; however, I can still say I'm taller than one of great presidents of the past Mike Rovella! Even Commissioner Woodcock who had worked with Mike Rovella at the state house several years ago, thought that the MBA had some kind of height requirement because it seemed like most of the MBA members he meet were short!

The MBA was really fortunate at how much we made during the banquet and many items that were donated actually brought in more money than what was MSRP. I should know I made sure to remove any price tags before the merchandise came through the doors to the banquet, which opened at 5:00pm. As I said earlier, I was born at night, but not last night! We had 3 youth bows, targets (bag, block, 3-D deer), 6 dozen of carbon arrows, drop-away arrow rests,

sights, high speed arrow saw, fletching, treestands, and many other items including non-hunting items. We were very fortunate to have 3 hunts donated to the MBA including a Hog Hunt, a Maine Fall Bear Hunt, and a Canadian Spring Bear Hunt!

This year the MBA received 63 stat sheets from 25 different individuals from the 2010 hunting season which included deer, bear, turkey, moose, elk, pronghorn, and even an extremely rare Maine "Woodchuck" taken with archery equipment! The following is the list of awards that were presented at the banquet.

For Largest Game Animal in Each Category:

In-State Buck: Joe Hall

Out-of-State Buck: Brad Magoon (Kansas)

In-State Doe: Pete Lamarre

Out-of-State Doe: Brad Magoon (Kansas)

In-State Bear: Tony Wardwell

In-State Turkey: Perry Hatch

In-State Moose: Marc Hein

Out-of-State Elk: Joe Hall

MBA Awards for 2010:

County Representative of the Year: Steve Gray

Director of the Year: John Hunt

Support of the Year: Old Town Archery Center

Bowhunter of the Year (Tie Vote): Brad Magoon & Tina Richard

President's Appreciation Awards:

Russell Corson, Jeff Hopkins, William Valleau, Bob Walker, Paul St. John, and Central Maine Archery

Special Award:

Paul Jacques - for his many years of service to the Maine Bowhunters Association and to all outdoorsman and women of the state of Maine. Please see photos on the main page of our website!

As some of you may already know, this banquet was my final official function as your president of the Maine Bowhunters Association after 4 years at the helm. I have been very fortunate to be surrounded by a great team of officers, directors, and representatives of the MBA that have made my position and my job much easier and really enjoyable. My wife Tina and I have met so many great people outside the MBA in other hunting organizations, IF&W, and all the professional archery shops throughout the state of Maine. Tina and I are still going to be active in the MBA, but I wanted to concentrate my efforts on Bowhunter Safety Education and National Archery in the Schools Program. Some people may not realize it, but firearms and archery hunting is not a right protected by the 2nd Amendment of the United States Constitution, so we need to realize that we have to give back to our sport of bowhunting and help capture the next generation of kids in order to protect our hunting

heritage. I want to hand off to the next president of the MBA a lot of the other stuff so I can hang out with young people and be a kid again!

Marsh Island Update

The Maine Bowhunters Association and the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife are attempting to get Marsh Island included into the existing Bangor Expanded Archery Zone for the 2011 season. Despite all the detractors from both the hunters and anti-hunters, the Bowhunters/Landowners Information Program (BLIP) has been very successful over the past 3 years. Marsh Island is approximately 10 square miles of island on the Penobscot River with less than 1 square mile available for the MBA BLIP to accomplish the deer reduction effort. During that time approximately 20 BLIP members eliminated just shy of 100 deer in less than one square mile. The feedback from the town council has been very positive with the effort of the MBA BLIP program. This team of bowhunters has shown what most of us already know – bowhunting is very safe and effective in urban settings.

The biggest hurdle now is getting through the IF&W Advisory Council. The complaints from local residents and the University of Maine are no different than any other place in Maine that allows the Expanded Archery Zone. Many other Expanded Archery Zones have colleges

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located within that area. Those that choose to not participate can post their property to "No Hunting" which is true throughout this state. The towns of Orono and Old Town may have to set up special provisions similar to what happened in Augusta where all archers participating in the Expanded Archery Zone on the island must first register with the police with written permission to be on someone's property prior to the beginning of the season. Anyone caught without written permission and registering with the police would be guilty of trespassing and lose their hunting license. Waterville has a provision that archers hunting on certain pieces of town property must be put into a lottery to be allowed to hunt that piece of town property.

I have been in many discussions with other hunters who refuse, by their

own personal choice, to participate in this program. It is unfortunate that some people believe rules do not apply to them and think that the world revolves around them. Despite the controversy, the MBA has always stated that this endeavor at Marsh Island was to open the area to Expanded Archery Season and we have held up our end of that gentlemen's agreement in 3 short years. I want to thank everyone who has contributed to this success. If this doesn't pass for Expanded Archery Season, there is a possibility of the area returning to "No Hunting" because the MBA does not want this BLIP program to be a never-ending situation on the island.



Top Left: Jerome Richard working with Arrika Knights Miss Maine at the Presque Isle Sportsman Show



Bottom Left: Paul St. John working with a young lady at the Augusta sportsman show

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Mock Scrapes by Bill Valleau Knox County Rep

Several years ago, I was hunting an area that had great buck sign with many scrapes and rubs throughout the property. So much sign in fact, I figured there were multiple bucks working the area. Frustratingly, I spent a week in my tree stand without seeing a single deer. The hunting area was between a bedding and feeding area, a travel corridor. With all of this said, I was confident that all the buck activity was at night, so the chances of catching a buck on his feet during daylight were very slim. I decided I had to try something different, something that may increase my chances of seeing a deer and something I hadn't tried before. So the next day, before climbing to my perch, I created an imitation scrape about 20 yards away from my stand, underneath a low hanging cedar branch. I saturated the soil of the scrape with a

few squirts from a bottle of doe in estrus scent. While in my stand, it began to rain and became foggy. My mind wandered from hunting to work, thinking of previous hunts and the thought of stopping for the day crossed my mind. My eyes scanned the area, up the trail, down the trail and over to my man made scrape. Then my heart stopped. A buck was actually standing broadside over the scrape I made. It was the type of thing I had seen before, but only in hunting shows. After I shot, the young buck ran about 60 yards and tipped over, a quick recovery. This was the first time that I ever made a mock scrape and never had really used scents-much before, but it just goes to show that trying a new or different hunting technique can be an additional strategy that makes the difference.



Photo:
Tina Richard working with young lady at Winslow Sportsman Show



York County Report By Steve Gray

I recently took advantage of a day off from work to visit with Seth Legere of the Kittery Trading Post. KTP is located on Route 1 at Route 101 in Kittery in the heart of the outlet district. KTP was there first.

Seth is the manager of Fishing, Archery, Hunting and Shooting Sports sections of the KTP. He spends a majority of his work day on the floor, making himself available to staff and customers alike. Seth started his career at KTP shortly after graduating from Sanford High School. He took up bow hunting before it really took off and got other family members into it as well. Val Marquez was his safety class instructor.

Even at his young age, compared to me, Seth has been a part of many changes at KTP, including renovations and expansions of the store as well as the Archery section.

KTP has been serving archers and bow hunters for well over 30 years. They provide a full service shop and factory trained techs. The techs are the same folks that help you out on the floor. They hunt and shoot too, so they are happy to talk with you about all the choices of bows, arrows, accessories and

targets.

KTP stocks the latest from Hoyt, PSE and Matthews. If you are looking for Martin, Parker or Bear, they have those too. What they don't have, they can surely get.

Take a look at the brag board. I hope you were able to add to it this past season.

Kittery Trading Post hosts a number of big events including SEPTEMBERFEST. This is a great opportunity to meet and talk with factory reps and techs from the major manufacturers. They bring the latest goodies with them and you can try them out right then and there.

KTP's archery folks stand ready to help the beginner choose their first set up and the veteran gear up with the latest technology. If your school or group is interested in starting an archery program, talk with Seth about the NASP (National Archery In The Schools Program) and what KTP can do to help get you started. The Matthews Genesis Bow is used exclusively by NASP and is available at KTP. Check out their website. The link is on the MBA homepage.

3D BOWHUNTER SHOOTS

Sunday, 12 June

Sunday, 21 August

**SSF&GPA Berwick range - (formerly the GEEA range)
Wentworth Rd - Berwick, ME**

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Photo on Right: Russell Corson working with a young gentleman at the Orono Sportsmans Show



Legislative Report

By Jerome Richard

This was a very busy legislative session and I was fed up quickly with some of the bills being introduced in this session. What worried, me was people could get any legislator, who may not be a hunter or fisherman, to introduce a bill into the Joint Standing Committee (JSC) on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. Most of us would think, that members of the JSC would know something about hunting, fishing, or wildlife management, but that is not always the case. All these positions are politically selected from amongst our elected legislature, but they do not have to have a background in hunting, fishing, the outdoors, or wildlife management. The JSC still does a great job, but at times I'm in total disagreement with them on some of the bills that are introduced. I guess my mom was right, when I was a little kid, when she said I wouldn't always get what I wanted.

I witnessed a few bills brought before the JSC by bill sponsors who did not have a clue of what they were proposing on many occasions. One bill was to allow unlimited possession of any game birds! The Representative introducing the bill doesn't even hunt and must have had a poacher write the bill for him! IF&W does not set bag limits for migratory birds, USFW sets bag limits – do your homework!

On another bill, I watched a personal fight between 2 landowners over waterskiing on Allen Pond introduced. How is it that people introduce a bill that affects 2 arguing landowners which leads to new laws affecting everyone else in the state without doing their homework first?

On another occasion I heard a Representative introduce a bill on the gifting of fish. This sounded reasonable enough at first, until you heard from the person that had asked the Representative to introduce the bill. He was a Registered Maine Guide who had gone fishing on Moosehead Lake with his buddy. At the end of the day he reportedly gave his bag limit to his buddy who also had his daily bag limit and was leaving the Moosehead Lake region that day. His buddy got stopped at an IF&W Checkpoint with the over the daily bag limit on at least 2 fish species. How do you expect Game Wardens to figure this out? He actually could have intentionally over fished his limit and this bill would make poaching of fish legal. Kind of follows the same line of reasoning with the unlimited possession of wild birds.

I still disagree with allowing crossbows into the archery season, especially at this time with the lower deer numbers. We have not even come up with a deer recovery plan that has been given a chance to show if it will work. Let me explain what is on the line for all Maine deer hunters when it comes to

crossbows in the archery season. In Ohio, the results from the most recent data available is 2009, the state sold 624,908 deer hunting licenses. According to Representative Lance Harvell sponsor of LD 137, which would allow crossbows into the archery season, he said Ohio sold over 100,000 crossbow licenses. This means 16% of all deer hunting licenses would be sold for crossbows. In 2009, Ohio had a total deer harvest of 248,515 deer. That is more than the entire estimated Maine deer population! So let's take 16% of the total Maine deer hunting licenses of 175,000 which would be 28,000 crossbow licenses in Maine which is close to the estimate of 30,000 that George Smith, former Executive Director of SAM, suggested to IF&W just a few years ago. Currently there is an estimated 14,000 archery licenses sold in Maine which means you could technically end up with tripling the number of hunters in the archery season. Now this isn't too bad on the surface, until we realize that we have increased the total possible number of deer hunting days per hunter, which could lead to more deer harvest success.

Some hunters say the archery hunters are just trying to keep crossbows out of Maine and do not want to share the woods with other hunters. Well, there is more to it than meets the eye. We currently have zero any-deer permits in 18 of 29 WMD's which means IF&W has no

other means to control deer harvest rates, except to eliminate the number of hunting days. Do you want to guess whose season will be cut? Isn't it the firearms season that has the largest deer hunting success rate? Is there even the slightest chance that if the deer population continues to decrease that IF&W might have to cut some of the firearms and muzzle loading season to balance the equation? Why is it, according to data presented by outdoor writer Bob Humphrey, that 22 northern tier states do not allow crossbows in the archery season or it is illegal to hunt with a crossbow except in cases of a handicapped hunter? It is because the whole northern tier states have sensitive deer populations where one bad winter could change the total number of deer for years. There isn't one New England state that exists that allows crossbows in the archery season, so why start at the most northern part of New England?

If we don't get this right folks, Maine will continue to lose another segment of the states economy. As many of you have seen, Maine jobs are hurting whether it be in the forest products industry or tourism in all areas from winter to summer activities. Sometimes we have to be cautious about what we want as there could be consequences. Will this decision come down to selling out our natural resources in a foolish effort to generate revenue for

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IF&W with more license sales that could backfire?

The one thing that became really clear is that politics do not make for good wildlife management. I was disappointed at times with IF&W for not taking a strong stand to help with the deer recovery efforts when giving testimony during public hearing and the work sessions. The one statement that came up time after time from IF&W is that they could control the deer harvest despite increasing hunting opportunities by limiting any-deer permits (aka – Doe Permits). That's hard to believe when 18 of the 29 Wildlife Management Districts (WMD's) have zero any-deer permits for the last 3 years, so how do you take something from nothing? Only Central and Southern Maine have any-deer permits and IF&W just reduced those by 46%. That is a good step in the right direction and I'm sure Commissioner Woodcock will make some good changes at IF&W that will support the deer recovery effort. I just hope that the politicians stay out of it and let good biologically based science dictate the deer recovery process.

I attended the Governor's announcement about the "Maine's Game Plan for Deer". This document can be obtained thru the IF&W website at www.mefishwildlife.com for more information. I am really

hoping this administration will be able to get a handle on the long term commitment that is needed to restore the deer herd in Maine. I hear a lot of politicians and writer's giving opinions, but I want to see measurable, quantifiable results instead of a lot of talk and no action.

One thing that did concern me with the "Maine's Game Plan for Deer" was it started out sounding like it was blaming the large landowners for the lack of wintering deer yards and winter habitat, and yet it totally glossed over the increased deer pressure hunting with just one sentence in a 40 page document. If everybody starts down that road of jumping on the landowners for the problem without compensating the landowner and on top of that telling the large landowner that hunters are going to increase hunting opportunities, then there will be a big fight coming down the road and it won't be about coyotes and bears! Please see Hampden CLUP article previously.

How can hunters demand other landowners to do something without compensating them? These large landowners pay for the land, pay the taxes, provide jobs, and many other outdoor activities. If hunters want to beat on the large landowners whether they are or are not members of Small Woodlot Owners Association of Maine, Maine Forest Products Council, or the Maine Farm Bureau, then these same landowners can

guarantee deer recovery by eliminating the largest predator – the hunter and any other outdoor recreationalist! The deer and other game and non-game species are a state resource owned by the state, but nowhere in the law does it give individuals the right to trespass onto someone else's land to meet their desire to hunt. Hunting is a privilege, not a right.



Reggie Rouse's 22LB turkey taken on May 7, 2011.

It had a Beard of 10" Beard.

Left Spur 1.625, Right Spur 1.750.



HOW TO SUBMIT ARTICLES AND ADS

The Maine Bowhunter welcomes submissions from all MBA members. If you've got something you would like to share with the MBA membership, send it along. We want to hear from you. Stories, photos, hot topics, even gripes are welcome. Try to keep stories to 500 words or less. Please note the following dates for submission of material.

The Maine Bowhunter is inserted into the Maine Sportsman and sent to the committed members of the Maine Bowhunters Association every other month, six times per year.

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Quarter Page	3 ¾ X 4 ½	\$80	\$75	\$450
Eighth Page	1 7/8 X 2 ¼	\$60	\$50	\$300

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MBA Membership Application

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Central Maine Archery Grand Re-Opening

By Tina Richard

Jerome and I had the privilege of going to Central Maine Archery for their Grand Re-Opening on March 19th. Tom and Jess Hartford have relocated their professional archery shop at 213 Washington Street in Auburn closer to Exit 75 on the Turnpike. At 9:15 am the JOAD youth archery team cut the ribbon at the new indoor 16 lane archery range. After the ribbon cutting the JOAD team had a qualifying tournament from 9:30-12:00 using both target compound bows and target recurve bows. We met some of the best Maine State and International archers like Joey Hunt, Callie Gallant, Stephen Lolmaugh and Ellen Jewett.

The Central Maine Archery pro-staff was available to help anyone with questions, setting up a new bow, or working on a current bow. The pro-staff includes David Eretzien, Dan Morin, Shawn Knight, and Kevin Rouillard, who were a great bunch of folks.

Several archery product reps were at the event to show new merchandise and let you try it before you bought anything. There were folks from Hoyt, PSE, G5, Summit, Vital Gear, SKB, and AAE. Jerome talked a lot with Adam Flood of Harrisburg, PA from G5 since they both had two things in common

— G5 Montec and the MBA BLIP program. Adam helped design and run a deer reduction program in Minnesota several years ago that is very similar to the MBA BLIP program. It was a really good opportunity for them to compare notes on what works well and growing pains in developing the program. Jerome and I have been using the 85g G5 Montec for the last 2 years and were amazed at how great they fly for a fixed blade broadhead compared to some of our old favorites that have been around a long time.

Jerome was also able to catch up on “old times” with John Wood who reps for SKB Bow Cases and Arizona Archery Equipment (AAE). John and Jerome used to whitewater kayak the Kennebec Gorge and the West Branch of the Penobscot River back in the early 90’s. I could tell that both of them have relocated their “ballast” with age! As Jerome said to John, “I remember when you had hair and you were a lot thinner!” Of course John had to remind Jerome he used to be “thinner and had hair that wasn’t all gray!”

There was great food to eat all day long while we mingled with great folks. One gentleman I met was Walter Levesque who took a nice Pope and Young buck from the Auburn area last fall. It was great listening to his once in a life time big buck hunt and

seeing the shoulder mount on display at Central Maine Archery. While we talked with him he signed up as an MBA member along with two others.

There were some clearance leftovers in left and right handed bows such as:

- * 2009 PSE Omen 28” RH 70#
- * 2009 PSE Dream Season 29” RH 60#
- * 2010 Carbon Matrix RH 60#
- * 2008 PSE Rogue X RH 70#
- * 2008 Hoyt Avenger LH 60#
- * 2009 Hoyt Alpha Max LH 50-60#
- * 2009 Trykon Jr. LH and RH target bows

They had some great raffle drawings such as:

- * 5 free subscriptions to the Northwoods Sporting Journal
- * Deer Scents 7 Attractants
- * 10 one-hour Dart virtual hunt passes
- * Eastern arrow tube
- * 5 thermal cell portable units for bug repellent or scent dispersal

And many more great items...too many to list.

Jerome and I had a great day at the Grand Re-Opening and were honored to be part of it. Since the big day we have talked with Tom and Jess, and they said the relocation has been great for business. We wish them great success in the future and look forward to working with them again.



Walter
Levesque
with his
big buck
he got last
fall.

WYOMING ANTELOPE 2010

BY PERRY HATCH

As I drove into Wyoming, I couldn’t help but wonder about, what could have been during my Colorado elk hunt. Maybe next time, but now it was time to set up for my antelope hunt.

I had hunted the same property in 2008 taking a small buck. I spent the last half of my first day checking the area for antelope. There was no shortage of antelope but I was disappointed in the quality of bucks I found. I placed my pop-up blind at the same windmill I had used in 2008 and then left the area to make camp.

The next morning found me in the blind before daylight with food and books to last an entire day. Even if the calendar may have said mid-September, the water around my blind had a thin covering of ice. This soon disappeared as the sun rose in the east. I could see 50-75 antelope scattered around my area but a careful search showed no real “trophies”. Oh well, I was here to take an antelope with my bow and not to worry about the size.

As the morning dragged on, two bucks started my way but the largest turned off and headed to parts unknown. The second buck continued to close in on the water. Before long he was drinking only 30 yards from me. I thought he was only about 11 inches long and left the bow resting in the blind as I took his picture.

Little did I know that he was going to be the last antelope to water for several more hours. A herd of cows moved in and spent the early afternoon lazing around the pool. With evening fast approaching, I spotted a buck about a mile to the east of me that appeared to be working

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my way. I can't tell you how long the next thirty minutes were as he slowly worked his way in. It seemed even stranger because I was able to give my wife back in Maine text updates on his progress. Finally he was drinking at the edge of the pool. I had already made up my mind that he was big enough for me. I slowly picked my spot and sent a Thunderhead through his heart. I watched as he made a run for it but it didn't take long for the broadhead to do its work.

I took several pictures of the area and then loaded up my blind and antelope. I couldn't help but smile to myself when I remembered that my 2008 buck had been standing in the same exact spot as my 2010 buck. Maybe I need to go back again in 2012?



Alder Brook Archery owned and operated by Mike Larrabee
527 Corinna Center Rd in Corinna
278-3171

A Dealer for Mathews & Darton bows



Also a dealer for Mission by Mathews & Mike can also special order other brands

Mike has been in business for over 10 years, his shop has 2 indoor lanes, and he has an outdoor range with 15 targets with a 50 yard maximum.

The shop carries a full line of archery accessories as well.

Mike is an avid bowhunter with 30 plus years experience to help you become a better bowhunter. Please visit his shop for all your archery needs.



The Maine Bowhunters Association is organized and shall be operated:

To provide a State-wide organization within which people through individual memberships, with a common interest in bow-hunting, may recognize and have means of furthering their interests.

The Maine Bowhunters Association shall recognize ALL vertical bows as acceptable under the definition of bows provided by the International Bowhunter Education Program, which reads: "one that is hand held, hand drawn, and released with nothing attached to the bow that will allow the bow to be mechanically held in a drawn or cocked position." The Maine Bowhunters Association shall not recognize the crossbow under this definition and shall oppose attempts to make the crossbow acceptable for use in bow hunting only seasons.

To foster a spirit of sportsman-like fellowship among all bowhunters.

To initiate or support selected activities and programs intended, or expected, to emphasize the responsibilities inherent in any proper use of the bow and arrow and to protect such continued use and possession on the part of citizens of good repute.

To strive toward upgrading the sport of bowhunting through education, training, demonstration, dissemination of information, and related activities.

To encourage by education, training, and demonstration, the support of appropriate legislation or other activities, a high level of sportsmanship and ethics in any use of the bow and arrow in activities related to the interests of the association.

To educate archers to the fact that bowhunting is a sport of separate from and not to be confused with the sport of target/field archery.

To further the purpose of this association by means of education, demonstration, or other appropriate activities directed to the recognition and protection of the rights of others, insofar as they relate to property rights, and enjoyment and use of property, and the enforcement of laws and regulations.

